

[54] **PROCESS FOR AUGMENTING
CONNECTIVE MAMMALIAN TISSUE WITH
IN SITU POLYMERIZABLE NATIVE
COLLAGEN SOLUTION**

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[58] **Field of Search**..... **424/177, 89**

[56] **References Cited**

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[57]

ABSTRACT

A method for augmenting hard or soft connective tissue, such as skin, tendon, cartilage, bone or interstitium, in a living mammal comprising implanting a proteolytic enzyme-solubilized, purified, native, in situ polymerizable collagen solution into the mammal at the augmentation site. The solution polymerizes at the site into a stable, non-reactive fibrous mass of tissue which is rapidly colonized by host cells and vascularized.

21 Claims, No Drawings